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# WEEKLY PEOPLE



NEW YORK, SATURDAY, MARCH 18, 1905.

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## THE INTERBOROUGH STRIKE

### ONE OF THE COMPLETEST TIE-UPS AND THE MOST INFAMOUS BETRAYALS OF LABOR ON RECORD

**3,000 Subway and "L" Employees Go Out As One Man to End Oppressive Conditions, Only to Meet With the Bitter Opposition of "Labor Leaders" Stone, Mahon, Healy, Gompers and Mitchell—the Disreputable "New Yorker Volkszeitung" and Its "Social Democratic", Alias Socialist Mannikin Is the Local Central Federated Union, Aid and Condone the Pro-Capitalist Work of the Labor Fakirs—the American Labor Union, the Socialist Trade and Labor Alliance, and the Socialist Labor Party, Encourage and Aid the Strikers.**

On Tuesday, March 7, the employees of the subway and "L" roads of this city went out on strike. The subway was built by the city, and is now operated by the Interborough Company, which owns and also operates the "L" system. The Interborough Company is controlled by the Rothschilds, through their American agent, August Belmont, who is its President. This is the same Belmont who figures as the President of the National Civic Federation.

The strike will go down in labor history as one of the most typical all-around phases of the conflict of interest between capital and labor. To begin at the beginning, it was a complete tie-up, a magnificent exhibition of combined working class action. The disgraceful fratricidal squabbles in which one union of the employees attempted to profit at the expense of the other, as on former occasions, were conspicuous by their absence. The 5,000 and more employees on the "L" and the Subway, whether motorman, conductor, track-repairer, switchman, porter or cleaner, went out as one man, tying up the system so completely as to surprise the entire city by its effectiveness. The striking organizations are the Brotherhood of Locomotive Engineers (motormen), the Amalgamated Association of Street and Electric Railway Employees (guards, conductors, street-sweeps, cable workers, porters, etc.), and the Brotherhood of Locomotive Engineers (former drivers now doing other work for the company).

The only drawback about the tie-up was the failure of the power house employees to respond. Had they come out the Interborough would have been more than tied-up—it would have been paralyzed.

The men struck for more wages, shorter hours, less rigid physical examinations (which were largely a means of weeding out unionists) and longer rests between trips.

Last September a strike was threatened on the Interborough system. It was averted by concessions to the men to enable the subway to open without delay. Arbitration was the means employed. The result was an agreement, which the men sought, was systematically violated.

It was this fact which gave force to their present action against the company. The men resisted the manner in which they had been treated, and, in order to avoid a repetition of the same in the future, they concluded that decisive action was necessary, hence the complete tie-up.

That the Interborough company was not acting in good faith with the strikers is further evinced by the fact that while talking arbitration, just prior to the tie-up, it was hiring strike breakers in other cities. A boat load of them was anchored in the Harlem River the Sunday preceding the tie-up.

Threats of strike were made a month ago. At that time the company threatened with the men apparently in the hope of staving off the strike until it could fight back without hindrance from the weather. The national officers of the men's organizations stood for this, and acted in the interest of the company, aiding it in every way possible, to stifle the aspirations and efforts of the employees.

This was notably the case with Warren E. Stone, Grand Chief of the Brotherhood of Locomotive Engineers. This worthy was in secret conference with August Belmont, the President of the Interborough, while here ostensibly in the interests of the motormen, who belong to his organization. On the second day of the strike, Stone denounced the members of his organization for violating the already violated (by the company) agreement with the company. He ordered them back to work, and on their failure to permit him to aid the company to keep itself upon injury, he revoked the motormen's charter.

William Mahon, the national President of the Amalgamated Association of Street and Electric Employees also on this count out with a statement

condemnatory of the action of the strikers connected with his organization. These, too, refused to be bullied and browbeaten into submission to wrong by a coward and a traitor.

Timothy Healy, President of the National Stationary Firemen, who could have done effective work in getting the employees of the power houses out, has stood by the company. So did Samuel Gompers, President of the American Federation of Labor, and John Mitchell, President of the United Mine Workers, who were declared by the capitalist press, to be in this city on the second day of the strike and to have condemned the strikers, throwing the weight of their power and influence to the advance-

The track and car repairers and inspectors, together with the interlocking switch repairers and switchmen, all very essential employees, refuse to return to work until the company has acceded to the strikers' demands.

The Interborough company, failing to break the tie-up by means of strike breakers, utilized the press to the same end. This capitalist institution printed long interviews with the local leaders that did not occur. It flaunted the treacherous acts of the national "labor leaders" in the strikers' faces and sought to intimidate them by showing the penalties of ignoring the national organizations. It printed the most rabid and vicious stories of violence and desertions,

### TRAITORS TO LABOR--FRIENDS OF CAPITAL

**WARREN E. STONE,**

Grand Chief of The Brotherhood of Locomotive Engineers.

**WILLIAM D. MAHON,**

President of The Amalgamated Association of Street Railway Employees.

**TIMOTHY HEALY.**

President of The Stationary Firemen.

**SAMUEL GOMPERS.**

President of The American Federation of Labor.

**JOHN MITCHELL,**

President of the United Mine Workers.

**THE "NEW YORKER VOLKSZEITUNG"**  
and its Social Democratic Mannikin in the Central Federated Union.

### WORKINGMEN: REMEMBER THESE NAMES.

ment of the company's interests. Neither of them have made any refutation of this declaration. Gompers, in a speech at Baltimore, on March 12, denounced the local leaders and declared the strike entirely unjustifiable. Gompers is first vice-president of Belmont's National Civic Federation.

The traitorous course of the national "labor leaders" was followed by the local labor fakirs. These failed to raise their voices in protest against the acts of berkeley committed by the Stones, Mahons, Healy, Gompers and Mitchell. All the regular meeting of the Central Federated Union (otherwise known as the "Fakirism" and "The Circus") held on Sunday, March 12, silence gave consent to all that had been done against the strikers by Belmont and his "labor leader" allies.

The "Social Democratic", alias Socialist party supporters of Gompers, taking their cue from their organ, "The New Yorker Volkszeitung", joined in this unanimous refusal to condemn the traitors to labor.

When the tie-up was announced, the Interborough turned loose its boat load of strike-breakers, and scoured the town for men willing to take the places of the strikers. Among those to respond to this ignoble call for the perpetuation of economic injustice and the triumph of capitalist interests, were the students of Columbia college. The company, through its mouthpiece, the newspaper, made the most of these accesses, declaring them experienced men, who were running the "L" and the Subway with success and on the usual schedule. The falsity of this statement was exposed in the accidents that occurred, accidents that were numerous and not reported to the police or in the press during the first week of the strike. They finally became so numerous and the schedule so bad, that the press was compelled to take cognizance of them. The company also boasted that it has a full complement of men in every department, whereas the truth of the matter, at the time of going to press, is that it is badly crippled, the rolling stock and structures are in bad condition and the possibilities of more and greater accidents increase with each passing day.

all calculated to stampede the men back to work. One of these stories related to the educational deficiencies of the strikers, and was calculated to demean them, making them servile and submissive. In brief, the whole course of the press was one of wheeling, cajoling, intimidation and opposition, by means of vicious misrepresentation and out-and-out blackguardism. "The New Yorker Volkszeitung", the bogus Socialist organ, echoed the capitalist lies. In its issue of Sunday, March 12, in large headlines, it proclaimed, there is: "Nothing More to Save", "The Striking Railway Employees Give Up All Hope", "THE TRAIN SERVICE MORE REGULAR". A reporter for the sheet was kicked out of Marion Hall, the strikers' headquarters, on the previous day. The Daily People was the only newspaper to stand by the strikers. Its reporters were freely given news. 1,500 copies of the Daily People were daily distributed among the rank and file; therefore, be it

DANIEL McDONALD,  
Gen'l President American Labor Union,  
CLARENCE SMITH,  
General Sec'y American Labor Union  
FRANK M. McCARE,  
General Vice-President, United Brotherhood of Railway Employees.

W. L. HILL,  
General Secretary U. B. of R. E.

CHARLES O. SHERMAN,  
General Secretary United Metal Workers.

It is no accident that only the class-conscious organizations of labor are standing by the strikers, while the capitalist labor unions are with Belmont and Co.

Despite the fact that they have to combat the army of the unemployed, the entire capitalist press and class, the police, and the city government, together with the treacherous labor leaders, the Stones, Mahons, Healy, Gompers, Mitchell, et al., the strikers, at the hour of going to press, refuse to surrender and are battling bravely against the terrible odds arrayed against them, increasingly conscious of their interests and the necessity for solidarity. They have taken steps to raise funds and otherwise pursue their fight with vigor. They declare that it is their fight and that they must win it for themselves, despite traitors and all else. May they win, is the earnest wish of every class conscious worker.

The below communication was received at the Daily People office Monday, March 13.

"PROGRESSIVE ROLLED CIGAR-ETTE MAKERS' UNION.

New York, March 12, 1905.

"We, the above-mentioned organization, decided at our last regular meeting, held on March 10, at 65 Columbia street, to condemn the action of the national leaders of the Brotherhood of Locomotive Engineers and the Railroad Employees Associations, and agree to stand by the locals of New York, and extend

the "labor leaders", the press, the police, and the city government, have not been lost on the strikers. These uses have opened the eyes of a large number of the strikers, to the capitalist character of these institutions. Nor have certain other facts, notably, the fraudulent character of the city ownership and control of the Subway. This form of "municipal ownership", which permits private operation in the interest of August Belmont and the Rothschilds, appears to them to be no different than other forms of capitalist exploitation. It excites only their admiration. The position occupied by August Belmont, the President of the National Civic Federation, impresses them as hypocritical, and typical of that gentleman's actual attitude on "conciliation and arbitration". To them "conciliation" simply means time to prepare an army of strike-breakers that will compel "arbitration". The last is construed as a means of making injustice effective. It is a game of losing for the workers, no matter which way the penny is flipped.

The object lessons of the strike have been clearly elucidated to the strikers by Rudolph Katz, Arvid Olson, James T. Hunter, Sam French, Charles Corrigan, Emil Hendrichs, John T. Vaughan and Daniel De Leon, members of the Socialist Labor Party and Socialist Trade and Labor Alliance. They have addressed meetings of the strikers at Marion and Colonial Halls and the Lion Palace. The necessity of industrial unionism, a clear understanding of the conflicting interests of the working and capitalist classes, and the overthrow of capitalism, through the collective ownership of capital, were pointed out. The strikers showed their appreciation of these efforts by close attention to the speakers and generous applause.

Herman Richater was elected temporary chairman, M. Meyer temporary secretary. Thereupon the delegates allowed to sit in the convention were seated and the temporary chairman and secretary were made permanent. The officers of the convention were then duly sworn in, as required by law, by a notary public, and the convention was ready to transact business.

Comrades P. Friesen, Jr., Arthur L. Kline and Octave M. Giedl, were then elected a committee on platform and resolutions.

This committee reported that it recommended that the Socialist Labor Party platform, as adopted by the Socialist Labor Party national convention for 1904, be adopted by the State convention. A motion that the report of the committee be concurred in and the national platform be adopted as the platform for the Socialist Labor Party of Michigan, was carried.

A resolution handed to the committee by Comrade M. Meyer was referred back to the convention without recommendation, to be decided by the convention.

A thorough and spirited discussion was then indulged in, in which it was stated, on the one hand, that the resolutions contained generalities not backed up by facts, that the American Labor Union represented wage working class interests, that the rank and file of the wage working class had, to a great extent, been rendered hostile to the S. L. P. through "pure and simple" calumnies, that it, the S. L. P., had to be open for advancement by adopting methods required to produce logical arguments to represent the new grounds. That "the insinuations in the resolutions" were liable to be construed as charging the American Labor Union leaders with misdeeds that they were not guilty of, and that they were wrongly implied.

On the other hand, it was pointed out that if popular dislike for the S. L. P. and for the principle of Socialism as well as for the S. T. & L. A., had been able to make the former militants look for something that was generally approved, the S. L. P. would never have existed and the name Socialism would never have become so much respected and so popular that now even bogus organizations are trying to sail under its flag and principle. It was pointed out, that while no accusation was made against any person the experience of the past in Detroit, when the Trades and Labor Council reconvened, in force and succeeded in calling a convention of all the labor and progressive organizations of Detroit, at Germania Hall, in 1894, where old party politicians were to be endorsed by the Independent Labor Party, so that it ended in a split, the S. L. P., the C. L. U., and the East Side Turners, as well as various local unions forming "the strictly independent workingmen's party," which, later on, changed its name to Socialist

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### MICHIGAN S. L. P.

NOMINATES STATE TICKET FOR THE SPRING ELECTION.

Also Passes Resolution On the Chicago Convention—Anthony Louwet of Kalamazoo, Cigarmaker, Chosen As Candidate for Justice of the Supreme Court.

Detroit, March 7.—The State convention of the Socialist Labor Party of Michigan, to nominate candidates for the State ticket for the spring election, and to transact such other business as should properly be brought before it, was held in Detroit, at Mannbach's Hall, 273 Gratiot avenue, on Saturday evening, February 25. The acting secretary of the Socialist Labor Party of Michigan, Comrade M. Meyer, called the convention to order at 8:15 p. m., and stated the reason for the holding of the convention, giving the information he had received from the Secretary of State and calling for the election of a temporary chairman and a temporary secretary.

The resolutions were then adopted, only two abstained from voting and eleven voted in favor. Anthony Louwet, of Kalamazoo, cigar maker, was then unanimously nominated candidate for Justice of the Supreme Court. Henry Ulbricht, of Saginaw, cigarmaker, and Shepard Cowles, of Sand Lake, were unanimously nominated as candidates for Regents of the University. Alben E. Higgins, of Kalamazoo, cigar maker, was nominated unanimously for member of the State Board of Education (to fill vacancy).

The State Committee was then given power to fill vacancies, also, to carry on such agitation as it deemed proper, advisable and necessary, and it was instructed to file the ticket.

A committee of the Cap-Makers' Union was then given the privilege of the floor. They asked for assistance for their "striking brother cap-makers in New York." This committee was granted the right to sell tickets among the delegates and the convention adjourned sine die.

### RESOLUTIONS AS ADOPTED:

Whereas, The proletarian revolution recommended that the Socialist Labor Party platform, as adopted by the Socialist Labor Party national convention for 1904, be adopted by the State convention.

Whereas, No concussions from the above-named declaration can be made whether terms be asked for by individuals as such, or by a body that reconnoiters in force for terms from the enemy of our class; and

Whereas, We consider it dangerous proceedings to make peace with individual leaders, and to try to agitate through, and by means of them by trying to hold their friendship and good will, while we depart from our previous course of forcing "the leaders" to move as a result of the agitation done among the rank and file; therefore, be it

Resolved, That we condemn as antagonistic to the class conscious aspirations of the wage working class, any action that may be intended to give consideration to individual aspirations, and any attempt to draw the S. L. P. into any other convention than such as is intended to get an explanation from it as to its position and on its stand on various matters based upon its principles; and be it further

Resolved, That if it should be decided that a representation of the S. L. P. through the S. T. & L. A., attended the Chicago convention, that no change of tactics be advocated or tolerated, but that, instead, the delegation do all that it is able to do to convince that convention that the only name for a class conscious, economic organization is the S. T. & L. A., and that the only principle is such that will endorse the S. L. P. as the only class conscious, political organization of the wage working class.

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## On the Chicago Manifesto

[These columns are open for the discussion to Party members and non-Party members alike.]

From F. Haselgrave, Member of the Canadian Socialist Labor Party.

London, Ont., Feb. 29.—After having given serious thought to the Manifesto to the Working Class, issued from the headquarters of the American Labor Union in Chicago, I have decided to give my opinion. In doing so I may add that I am also voicing the opinion of several if not all the members of Section London of London Canada. In fact, if possible, the National Executive Committee of the Socialist Labor Party of Canada will send delegates to the June 27 conference.

The Manifesto, down to that part where it says, "without affiliation with any political party," has the proper ring and denotes an awakening on the part of the workers, that cannot possibly work any harm to the Socialist Trade and Labor Alliance or the Socialist Labor Party by their being represented at said convention. In fact, it must be conducive of good, because all questions will there be debated, such as political affiliation, general administration, union labels, etc., and while not in favor of letting any of the principles of the Socialist Trade and Labor Alliance suffer, still, if after the debate was over and the convention decided to form a new trade union movement and would not adopt the Socialist Trade and Labor Alliance in its entirety, say, name and all, but took a long step forward from the American Federation of Labor stand and would recognize the Socialist Trade and

F. Haselgrave.

From Arvid Olson, member Socialist Labor Party.

New York, Feb. 27.—This Manifesto is a good, although not perfect, document. The Socialist Trade and Labor Alliance Declaration of Principles are considerably superior.

My objection against the statement "and monopolized price grow higher" in connection with the statement "His (the workingman's) wages constantly grow less as his hours grow longer", may be unimportant, but I can see no good from visiting the workers attention to an inevitable consequence of given economic laws under capitalist production. The insatiable conditions of the working class and their causes, can be much more clearly and plainly stated.

It appears to me that the Manifesto to some instance knocks itself on the head. In one place it says this:

"Craft divisions foster political interests among the workers, thus dividing their class at the ballot box, as well as in the shop, mine and factory."

Which is all true, and in another instance, in speaking of the proposed organization that is to remedy the ignorance and class divisions among the workers, it says:

"It should be established as the embryo organization of the working class, without affiliation with any political party."

The manifesto is here, it seems, bumping its head against a stone wall, unless politics and economics are two, independently of each other, operating things. But are they? No. They work in conjunction very much like the medicaments and the cloth which comprise the court

III.

From Charles Zeldt, member of the Socialist Labor Party.

Poughkeepsie, N. Y., Feb. 26.—I wish to say a few words about the Chicago Manifesto. The call for a convention for the purpose of organizing the working class upon the basic principles of the Class Struggle, is an important event in the labor movement. To the experienced eye of the Socialist Labor Party the declaration not to affiliate with any political party looks suspicious. For all that, taking the Manifesto into consideration and the spirit which prevailed at the conference from which it emanated, it cannot be looked upon in the light of the pure and simple declaration of "no politics in the unions".

Karl Marx, commenting upon the German Socialist fusion platform, makes the observation that "every real advance step of the movement is more important than a dozen platforms". It is true, we cannot be too careful lest we fall into a trap, yet it seems to me that the time when the Socialist Labor Party or the Socialist Trade and Labor Alliance could be trapped is passed. What would we think of an army which for fear of being trapped, would not venture to leave its camp? Of course, it is safer to stay in camp, but no battle could be gained thereby. Now, the topography of the labor movement is pretty clear to us. We have kept our eyes wide open all these years. Why should we fear that, should the Socialist Trade and Labor Alliance send delegates, they will not be to pure and simplicion?

The Chicago Manifesto, with all its shortcomings, is an important document, being an effort in behalf of the

American Federation of Labor sort of unionism as an obstacle in the path of the labor movement. We have always fought the pure and simple trade union and always tried to awaken among the working class the true spirit of solidarity.

We, of the Socialist Labor Party and the Socialist Trade and Labor Alliance cannot help but hail such a movement with delight. There was a time when Socialist Labor Party men went to "convert" the pure and simple and were themselves converted. There is no chance for that now. The delegates sent by the Socialist Trade and Labor Alliance will know that we are all eyes and ears. And should anything be done not in con-

formity with what experience has taught us is the right course to pursue, those delegates would find Chicago the most comfortable place to stay in: they would not dare return home.

We maintain that the political organization of the working class is the reflex of its economic organization. It cannot but follow that an economic organization based upon the antagonism between the working class and the capitalist class, will express itself likewise politically.

I have already said more than I intended, so I will conclude with the hope that the Socialist Trade and Labor Alliance will see its way clear to send a delegation to Chicago on June 27.

IV.

From A. Metzler, member Socialist Labor Party

Rochester, N. Y., Feb. 24.—By this time there are sufficient facts brought out in the discussion on the Chicago Manifesto, that one who is not personally acquainted with the local conditions there, nor with the signers of the Manifesto, is able to form a clear opinion of the whole situation, in fact, very important facts must be brought out if the present aspect of the situation is to be changed.

I wish to say that I can not see any excuse for the Socialist Trade and Labor Alliance staying away from the proposed convention in June. It seems to be an indispensable duty of the Socialist Trade and Labor Alliance to participate. The reasons for this shall be given presently.

The Socialist Trade and Labor Alliance would attach everlasting blame to its name, if it would ignore that friendly invitation to expound its principles before a number of representatives of workingmen on the mere excuse that they are mistaken on one point of principle. If the Socialist Trade and Labor Alliance does not want to be a formation like the rocks which accumulate only by gravitation, if it wants to be a live organization—which it is without any doubt—then it must penetrate wherever there is an opening for it to reach new fields for tillage. If the Socialist Trade and Labor Alliance does not do this it is a dead born child. The earth long ago passed the age of stone formation.

The other question is, whether that convention will or will not be, a promising field for planting Socialist Trade and Labor Alliance and Socialist Labor Party principles. This is the point which is disputed most. There is, however, one bright spot that shines out clearly, namely, the fact that the signers of the manifesto did dare to invite the Socialist Trade and Labor Alliance to that convention, although they must know and certainly do know, that the delegation from that organization will tell them the truth. This is a deed that fully entitles them to our most sincere respect, no matter what the past of these men has been, because, if a man is willing to listen to the truth, he is already more than half cured of his errors. This deed of theirs shows height of character which no "Kang" will ever reach.

But even if that fact would not speak in favor of the signers of the Manifesto, and even if we would accept the theory that all of the signers are irredeemable crooks, a refusal from the Socialist Trade and Labor Alliance to that invitation, would be a slap in the face of all workingmen who stand behind those representatives. No matter how ignorant we may consider these workingmen, the Socialist Trade and Labor Alliance is the last of all organizations, that could deny them the right to choose their representatives just as they see fit.

In regard to the different arguments brought out in the discussion so far, I notice with regret that some members of the Socialist Labor Party seem to have forgotten the bottom of that trouble that came to a head on the 10th of July 1886. No matter how many issues of conflict were raised at that time, no matter what titles were given to it,

However, I am convinced that the Socialist Trade and Labor Alliance will go to that convention with flying colors and will return with flying colors, no matter whether the result will be a coalition or not. And you, comrades, all over the country bring out your arguments on the Manifesto but, some of you, put a little more confidence in our organizations, the Socialist Labor Party and Socialist Trade and Labor Alliance. He who steals that confidence from me takes all the sunshine and brightness out of my life.

### PENNA. S. E. C.

Meeting at Philadelphia, March 8. Gay in chair. Minutes read, corrections made.

Correspondence.—From National Secretary, Henry Kuhn, in reference to circulars ordered. Members sending in three months trial subs are urged to get renewals of same. Bill from Labor News Company for circulars ordered paid. Secretary instructed to send circular to all the readers of *The People* in the State. From Grant, \$100; thirty stamps for Jenkins. From Hinkel, Reading, N. A. F. matter. From Bock, present address, Large, Pa.; from Weber, Wilkinsburg, N. A. F. matter; from Organizer Seidel, stating that the Philadelphia Section at its last meeting complied with the request of the S. E. C. to reinstate Comrade Katz. Comrade Katz was notified to assume his former position.

Receipts, \$35.20; expenses, \$11.24. James Erwin, Secretary.

If you receive a sample copy of this paper it is an invitation to subscribe.

## Assassination Next!

(From February issue Chicago "Voice of Labor," Official Organ American Labor Union.)

the A. F. of L. Grafters that involved all the A. L. U. unions of the city, and after all were out to help the A. F. of L. settlement was then made or attempted by the A. F. of L. on a basis that would leave the A. L. U. members out of employment and black-listed.

Of course such utterly disreputable methods as these are so degraded in character that a Zulu, an inhabitant of the Fiji Islands, or even a cannibal of the South Sea, would scorn to employ them, but they are well and commonly known to be the accepted methods of the A. F. of L. Grafters, and Industrial Unionists expect nothing better from that source.

Should all these "Honorable" methods fail there is still another plan open which has long been suspected but never openly talked of by the A. F. of L. publications until recently.

The monthly *Journal of the International Union of Steam Engineers* (A. F. of L.), issued under the date of Dec. 15, 1904, speaking of Wm. Kehoe, President; James Trainor, Vice President, of Local 308, A. L. U., and other members of the A. L. U. in New York City, quotes an alleged statement from a supposed member of the I. U. S. E. to the effect that the only way to get rid of the A. L. U. men is to "KILL A COUPLE OF THEM." This statement will be found on page 648 of the I. U. S. E. Journal for December, and it is the real keynote to the methods of warfare now to be resorted to by the capitalist class and its sheepskin Civic Federation and the tail thereof, the A. F. of L., to exterminate Industrial Unionism.

Its vast distances and great expanse of territory generate freedom and independence of character in its ever-growing population, and this is a fertile soil for the growth of Industrial Unionism. which means power to resist the attacks of the Wolf of corporate greed, disguised by the sheepskin of the Civic Federation and its tail, the A. F. of L.

Industrial Unionism is gaining strength in Texas, and the Trusts are so greatly concerned theretofore that a "UKASE" has been issued to the A. F. of L. tail of the Civic Federation, decreeing that Industrial Unionism must be "STAMPED OUT" in Texas, no matter what extremes may be necessary to accomplish that end.

One Woodman, Organizer of the A. F. of L., embryo editor and officer of state and city Federations of Labor, located at Fort Worth, was recently ordered in a letter from Samuel Gompers, to go to San Antonio and destroy the United Brotherhood of Builders in the Alamo City.

The U. B. of B. is an Industrial Union, that is to say, it admits to membership all persons employed in the Building Industry, and it is united with the A. L. U. It has acquired a good start in San Antonio, and there are indications that workingmen engaged in the building trades all over North America are beginning to turn their attention to the U. B. of B. as the only solution of the fruitless jurisdiction battles and strike failures which have been the record of the class order form of union in the Building trades hitherto.

The U. B. of B. therefore, which really offers an effective defense from the ravaging greed of the Wolf, has been ordered destroyed by the puppet which does the Wolf's bidding.

But the members of the U. B. of B. in San Antonio are fully informed of the "UKASE" and are familiar with the regulation A. F. of L. methods of destroying, or attempting to destroy A. L. U. or, any other effective unions.

The A. F. of L. Grafters may be expected to make an agreement, if possible, with the contractors or employers of the A. L. U. members in San Antonio, to the effect that if the contractors or employers will discharge all of the A. L. U. men the A. F. of L. Grafters will furnish all the "Seab union" workmen the employers require, at lower rates than the A. L. U. men are working for.

This was done by the A. F. of L. Grafters during the A. L. U. strike in the Kindell Mattress Factory and the paper mills at Denver in 1902.

Failing in this the Grafters will endeavor to win away the locals of the A. L. U. by circulating falsehoods against the A. L. U. and its officers, as is now being done or attempted by A. F. of L. Organizers M. Grant Hamilton in Montana, who has gone to the A. L. U. locals at Butte, Anaconda, Helena and other points in that state and tried to disrupt them.

If this method of warfare does not accomplish the purpose then the A. F. of L. Grafters usually attempt to start a "FAKE" strike of their own members, knowing that A. L. U. men will not scrub from principle, and will attempt to pull the A. L. U. men out on strike with them, and then arrange, if not already prearranged, with the employers, if possible, to put their own men back to work, regardless of conditions they work under, and leave the A. L. U. men out, so as to destroy the A. L. U. unions in that way. The question of improving the conditions of the workers being of no moment compared to the paramount necessity, to the Capitalist class, of destroying Industrial Unionism.

This was done in Denver in May, 1903, when a general strike was started by

identification is the Industrial Union button of the U. B. R. E.

The sheepskin is falling away and the Wolf is becoming more and more apparent.

Its nature is always and will always remain the same, regardless of the temporary garb which it may assume.

THE WOLF HAS SHOWN HIS TEETH.

CLEVELAND'S COMMUNE CELEBRATION.

Section Cleveland, Ohio, has arranged for a Grand Commemoration of the Paris Commune to take place at Germania Hall, street, Sunday, March 19, commencing at 3 p. m. Tickets in advance 25 cents a couple, at the door 50 cents.

Tickets at advance sale price can be had from all comrades and at the office of the German party organ, 193 Columbus street, corner Seneca, third floor. The following programme will be rendered:

Orchestra ..... Boehm's Orchestra Song: "Arbeiter auf!" Socialistic Liedertafel

English address ..... Comrade Paul Dinger Recitation ..... Comrade Chas. Schaefer

Song: "Bet' und arbeit!" Socialistic Liedertafel

German address, Com. Richard Koeppe Songs ..... Schiller Quartette "RABBLE!" A Drama from Proletarian Life by Franz Siedersleben.

CAST:

Christian Wiesener, an old cooper Richard Koeppe

Conrad, his little grandson Master Leopold Haug

A Thief ..... Ed. Hauser

A tramping journeyman ..... Chas. Schaefer

Turnkey of the jail ..... Leopold Haug

A Policeman ..... Rud. Boehm

Police Inspector ..... Geo. Bickendorfer

Grand Tableau:

"THE TRIUMPH OF PEACE"

After the programme, grand ball.

S. T. & L. A. LECTURE.

Buffalo, N. Y.—At Socialist headquarters, 19 West Mohawk street, Room 510, on Monday, March 20, at 8 p. m., O. A. Curtis, on "The Principles of Socialist Trades and Labor Alliance." Admission free.

Section Calendar

(Under this head we shall publish standing advertisements of Section headquarters, or other permanent announcements, at a nominal rate. The charge will be one dollar per line per year.)

New York County Committee—Second and fourth Saturdays, 8 p. m., at New Reade street, Manhattan.

Kings County Committee—Second and fourth Saturdays, 8 p. m., at headquarters, 613 Park avenue, Brooklyn.

General Committee—First Saturday in the month, at Daily People building, 2-4 New Reade street, Manhattan.

Offices of Section New York, at Daily People building, 2-4 New Reade street, Manhattan.

Los Angeles, California. Section headquarters and public reading room at 203½ South Main street. Public educational meetings every Sunday evening. People readers are invited to our rooms and meetings.

San Francisco, Calif., S. L. P. headquarters, an d free reading room 830 Market street, Room 40. Open day and evening. All wage workers cordially invited.

Section Chicago, S. L. P. meet every 2nd and 4th Monday at Exchange Hall corner of Sangamon and Monroe street.

All communications to Section Toronto to be sent to C. A. V. Kemp, organizer Section Toronto, Brackendale P. O. Ont. Canada.

Soc. St. Louis, Mo., S. L. P. meets every Thursday, 8 p. m., at 307½ Pine Street Room 6.

Soc. Cleveland, Ohio, S. L. P. meets every first and third Sunday of month at 266 Ontario Street (Ger. Am. Bank Bldg.) top floor, at 2:30 P. M.

Tacoma, Wash., Section headquarters and public reading room corner 12th and A street, room 304, over Post Office. Open every evening. All workingmen invited. Business meetings every Tuesday.

Section Providence, R. I., meets at 77 Dyer street, room 8. Something going on every Tuesday night at 8:00 p. m. 2nd and 4th regular business, others devoted to lectures and discussions. During the winter a Science Class every Wednesday night.

Meetings (each month) first and third Tuesday night, at 20½ South Del. street, third floor, Indianapolis, Ind.

Detroit, Mich., "Socialist Labor Auxiliary Reading Room, room 10 Avenue Theatre Bldg., Woodward avenue. Open every evening. Sunday all day. Discussion upon interesting topics every Sunday evening. All are welcome.

FOR OVER SIXTY YEARS.

An Old and Well-Tried Remedy.

MRS. WINSLOW'S SOOTHING SYRUP

## WEEKLY PEOPLE

4 and 6 New Reade St., New York.

P. O. Box 1376. Tel. 129 Franklin.

Published Every Saturday by the Socialist Labor Party.

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Owing to the limitations of this office, correspondents are requested to keep a copy of their articles, and not to expect them to be returned. Consequently, no stamp should be sent for return.

## SOCIALIST VOTE IN THE UNITED STATES:

In 1888...	2,068
In 1892...	21,157
In 1896...	36,584
In 1900...	34,191
In 1904...	34,172

A system that says to labor: "You shall take what I offer you without a word of remonstrance, without any conference as to its justice; you shall take it or you shall move your family two hundred miles before you earn a dollar", is as real a system of slavery as anything that was ever endured in the North or any of the Southern States, for the man is utterly unable to resist his circumstance.

WENDELL PHILLIPS.

## VIOLATION (SIC.) OF AGREEMENT (SIC.).

The Interborough employees, now on strike for the Rights of Man, are making experience. Among the experience that they are making in this: LABOR HAS NO RIGHTS THAT THE CAPITALIST CLASS NEED RESPECT. This fact transpires from the answer made by the Interborough Company to the Mayor, and the thunderous applause with which the answer has been greeted by the capitalist press.

The Interborough Company claims that its motormen "wantonly violated their agreement of September 7, 1904". This view of the subject, taken in connection with the admissions contained in the answer, demonstrates the capitalist position that "Labor has no rights that the capitalist class need respect".

For one thing, the answer contains intrinsic evidence that the Company did not respect the agreement, and deliberately violated it. The extraction of over 100 miles a day from its motormen wrought an insidious violation of the agreement. If equality of rights between the workingmen and the capitalist existed in the decalogue of the capitalist class, the agreement was violated by the Company. By what process of reasoning is the capitalist held free and the workingmen charged with "wanton violation of agreement"?—We shall see.

For another thing, the so-called agreement was null and void and from its inception a badge of fraud, it was a violation of law perpetrated by the Company. The capitalist press is bubbling over with praises for the Company. They call the Company's conduct "common sense"—aye, the common sense that consists in looking upon the workingman as there only to be plucked; they say the Company's conduct "has the sanction of economic principle"—aye, the economic principles of the buccaneer; they say the Company's conduct "rests upon human nature"—aye, the human nature of capitalist society whose motto is: "Do others or you will be done by them"; they pronounce the Company's conduct "sane"—aye, the sanity of the beast in the jungle whose mental and moral horizon is bounded by rapine. These attempts at white-washing the contract are hollow. They have been wiped away by equity jurisprudence long before they were uttered. Mountain high is the heap of legal decisions that stamp as fraudulent any contract into which one of the contracting parties is forced. A contract, or agreement, as the word implies, must be a document entered into by free men. If one of the contracting parties is under duress, the contract is a fraud upon him, a fraud that the other, and free contracting party is guilty of. The workingman is not free. The very "law of supply and demand" to which the capitalists appeal tells the tale that the workingman is under duress. Under capitalism, he is forced to sign any thing that the capitalist may dictate. The lack of hunger, held over him by the capitalist class, deprives him of the necessary freedom towards the individual capitalist. The "contract" or "agreement" that the capitalist draws from the workingman is an act of fraud committed by the capitalist, and stands branded as such both by reason and justice, both in theory and in practice. Looked at from that side, the Company stands branded as the violator of that social contract that is implied in all civilized society. By what process of reasoning can, then, the defrauded workingman be charged with breach of agreement, and the capitalist, the initial violator of contract, be held up as the model of legality?—We shall see.

The answer is plain: Under capitalism, justice, legality, and morality are but a mask behind which to practice

injustice, law-breaking and immorality. The Spirit of the Age has to be rendered homage to. The days have passed when the criminal class may brazenly vaunt its criminality. It must affect justice, legality and morality; even the autocrat of Russia feels the constraint; but while rendering external homage to Justice, Legality, and Morality capitalism practices its own creed. Its contract creed is this:

"The workingman has no right that Capitalism need respect. The capitalist's law of contract between Capitalist and Workingman orders that the workingman shall shut up and cough up. If he don't then he is a wanton violator of agreement."

Capitalism must be overthrown. The ballot of the Socialist Labor Party is inscribed—"We demand the unconditional surrender of the Capitalist Class!"

## DISGRACEFUL!

From the beginning of the strike on the Interborough Company down to to-day, the capitalist press of this city covered itself with infamy. Their head-lines bespeak the nervousness of ravenous stockholders whose food is the marrow of the working class; and their editorial arguments were but a mass of sophistry of the sort that prisoners in the dock usually resort to. All this may be said to be, though heinous, still so common on the occasion of every strike of magnitude, that it should not call for special comment. But there was one thing on the occasion of this strike that was never seen before in the capitalist press. Never before was the illiteracy of workingmen made a joke of and a reproach to them, or an argument against them. That happened this time. Strikers' conversations, probably wholly fictitious, were reproduced in the capitalist press, and their lack of schooling, their using "is" for "are", "them" for "those", "nothing" for "anything" and more such grammatical slips, were held up against them, and they were sought thereby to be brought into contempt.

Why did not these papers reproduce the wan faces of these workers' and other workers' children and contrast them with the full cheeks of the children of the capitalists? Why did not these papers reproduce the pictures of innumerable workingmen who are more or less mutilated at work, and contrast them with the full-limbed capitalists? Why did not these papers reproduce the pictures of the workingmen's wives worn-out and ill-clad, and contrast them with the pictures of the capitalists' wives well-fed and well-attired? As well may they have done so: the reasoning would have been identical.

The workingmen are illiterate? Why? For the same reason that their children are wan, their limbs mutilated, their wives overburdened and ill-clad. They are all this because the product of their toil is confiscated under the system of legalized robbery called capitalism. They are all that because they have to work for a pittance, while the capitalist plunderer lives in idleness or gambles with the product of their toil in the gambling dens called stock exchanges. They are all this because they have to risk their lives or die, while the capitalist lulls in security. They are all this because they can afford no schooling to their children and are themselves taken early out of school to grind out profits for the idle capitalist!

The capitalist press denies the hardships of the workers. But now, when that same press feels the dividends of its masters endangered by the strike, when the valiant stand of the strikers endangers even the charter of the Corporation, that press becomes so villainously violent that it lets the cat out of the bag; it mocks the workers for their illiteracy; it thereby makes an admission that goes to condemn it out of its own mouth.

Infamous capitalism that would mock its own victims!

## LABOR FAKIRS AND CAPITALISTS JOIN HANDS.

The column of the enemies of the battling Interborough employees have effected a junction. General Warren S. Stone, whose usual title is Grand Chief of the Brotherhood of Locomotive Engineers, made a forced march and clasped hands with General Frank Hedley, whose usual title is Manager of the Interborough Company. Fain would General Stone have kept his batteries concealed. But he could wait, or was allowed to wait no longer by Field Marshal Belmont, whose general title is Capitalist. The stocks of the Company were tumbling; the Columbia University seals were inefficient; and the howl of the capitalist press about the strike being ended broke no bones. Under such circumstances something had to be done at the double quick. To reveal the fact that the national labor leaders are but lieutenants of the capitalist class, and to have them fall in the rear of the workingmen is a rather costly experiment. It opens the workers' eyes; and that is bad for the capitalist flim-flam game of "pure and simple" Unionism. But it had to be done: the stocks were tumbling in the gambling hells of capi-

talist society. That something of the sort was in the wind appeared quite clearly from the capitalist "news" items stating that Gompers and Mitchell had "arrived". Whether it is true that they arrived or not, we know not. But the foregatherings of such carrion crows as the Gompers, the Mitchells and the Stones ever bodies evil to the Working Class. Such crows never foregather except capitalists are in a fix, and Labor threatens to get on top. Well, they did foregather, and the result is that Stone had to show his hands. He "ordered" the motorman back to work—not because the strike was lost and they might lose their jobs—but because if they did not he would have them expelled from the organization, in other words, he would punish them for injuring the business of his superior, Belmont!

The incident is of prime value. It is especially valuable because it has not had desired effect. The strikers have not been stampeded. Thus the lesson stands out clear as a pike what these national officers are there for.

The pure and simple Trades Union is a fetish. It is intended only to humbug the people. Absolute disorganization is preferable to organization that places the power in the hands of the foe organized against. That lesson the conduct of Chief Stone teaches. The blow he meant to give to Labor should be turned to profit by Labor. Labor should tell the Stones, the Gompers, the Mitchells to frame up their charters; that such charters are wanted no more; that they may organize themselves into aids of capitalism all they like, but that Labor is through with them and will henceforth organize itself for Labor's advantage.

Thus have the Socialist Labor Party and the Socialist Trade and Labor Alliance ever spoken—thus do they speak to-day, their words ever receiving fresh confirmation.

## A WANTON (!!) STRIKE.

One touch of nature makes the whole malefactors' world kin. In the same year, and month, aye, on the same day and hour when the Czar of Russia weepfully, and also amid grape shot and canister, declared the strike of his subjects a "criminal strike", the New York "Evening Post" pronounces the strike on the subway and elevated roads a "wanton strike".

Was there ever a strike against the oppressor that the oppressor considered justified? Can anyone recall a single strike for human conditions that the "Evening Post" and its fellow mouth-pieces of capitalism did not pronounce "wanton"? It ever was, it ever will be so, while capitalist plunder lasts.

Nothing seems more wanton to the oppressor and plunderer than the attempt to clip his claws. Of course, the class for whom the "Evening Post" speaks, the class that lives on dividends, on the unpaid product of Labor—that class considers it a "wanton" act on the part of the hard worked and underpaid Interborough Company employees to demand a few minutes of rest during their long hours, and a little better pay for their anyhow unrequited toil.

Equally quaint is the "Evening Post's" assurance that the strikers have forfeited the sympathy of the public because they gave the traveling public "less than twelve hours' warning." For one thing, did that alleged public ever stop to consider these employees' hardships? Did that alleged public ever stir itself to alleviate the crushing work of these employees? Not a bit. The bulk of that "public" is itself kept a hustling, mentally and physically, with its nose to the grindstone. The plundering capitalist class keeps the bulk of that public so busy that it has no time to consider the trials of other portions of the public. That portion of the public, however, that was affected, the Interborough employees, they who knew and felt exactly where the shoe pinched them—that portion of the public had and did receive all the necessary warning, as was proven by the completeness of the tie-up. Moreover, as one touch of nature makes all malefactors kin, one touch of nature thrills all the oppressed with the thrill of kinship. All the other sections of the public who are in a similar fix with the Interborough employees, all the other sections of the public who in their respective shops are likewise plundered and pinched, in short, all the sections of the public that do not live off the sweat of the brow and the marrow of the Working Class—all felt and feel the thrill of sympathy for the striking Interborough employees.

Every man in the land who combines decency with intelligence, honesty with knowledge, is in full sympathy with the strikers, and ardently wishes that their organization may be sound enough, and the spirit of solidarity in the Working Class at large be strong enough, to secure victory to the men who are now battling against the Interborough capitalist. The battle they are now fighting is an out-and-out battle of the great battle that is bound to be fought for human freedom. "Wanton"?—The capitalist, thus thrown out of business, finds himself, together

## CASH, OR PRINCIPLE?

A telephone message to Columbia University from Frank Hedley, general manager of the Interborough Company, against which about 5,000 employees are now on strike for human conditions, is reported to have demoralized the University. The telephone message offered the students "pocket money" if they would take the places of the train dispatchers, ticket agents and other positions during the rush hours and while the strike lasted. The effect was electric. By two o'clock, the report runs, laboratories and the gymnasium were practically deserted, the undergraduates, from seniors to freshmen, having proceeded in small squads to various points along the line with the intention of applying for daily jobs during the continuance of the strike. There was a joyful exuberance among these University recruits."

Was it the cash that lured these young men to an act of dishonor? Or was it a principle that animated them to an act of cruelty? It was both—the principle throws light upon the greed for cash, the greed for cash illuminates the principle.

Only recently we had occasion to point out the fact that the real seats of learning, the real Universities and Colleges of the land to-day are not the institutions that go by that name, and that are patronized mainly by the children of the bourgeois, but the humbler organizations of labor, in which the working class is assembled. We pointed out that, periodically in the history of nations, knowledge of a special category is required for progress, and that where that class assembles, whose class interests make for progress, there is the real place of learning. It was finally pointed out that our bourgeois class being a dead coal class, its revolutionary and progressive mission having been accomplished, noble aspirations must not be looked for in the colleges where the bourgeois youth are trained in dead and deadening lore, but in the organizations of labor, where the working class is trained in the living knowledge of the age. The demoralization produced among the bulk of the patrons of Columbia University by the General Manager Hedley's telephone message not only proves the point but illuminates them.

The bourgeois class is reflected in its "Universities." As in that class are found the rowdies of exuberant wealth and the pinchbeck shoddy who try "to keep up", so in their "Universities." Upon the recent incident of Kingdon Gould, the nephew of Anna, the countess of Castelane, with his ready pistol for hazers and plenty of cash in his pockets, nothing more supplemental could happen in Columbia than the desertion of the college benches by students in search of "pocket money" as strike-breakers.

The test of knowledge is that it enables. Where that is called knowledge chills the noble current of the soul, it is the reverse of knowledge. The training received by the Columbia lads who deserted their studies for the places of striking workingmen was not the fanning of the spark of noble aspirations that, as youths, they surely brought in their breasts when they matriculated at college; it was the placing of a leaden snuffer on the spark, heavy enough to extinguish it.

## SOCIALIST REPUBLIC OR ASH-BARREL REL.

The enthusiasm suddenly developed in favor of municipal ownership on the part of the ferry-boat lines between lower New York and Brooklyn is a development that marks the spot where the road forks—one fork leading to the Socialist Republic, another to Ash-Barrelonia.

What with the bridges that now span the East River and the several more that are in contemplation, and what with the contemplated tunnels under the River, the one-time prime dukedom or marquisate of the Brooklyn ferries has dwindled into a trifle, compared to what it once was, and threatens to sink into a burden on the hands of its owners. Dividends that once ran high, now have taken a plunger, and it looks as if they may be substantially if not wholly wiped out. The very thought of the popular ownership of these ferry-lines one time threw their owners into hysterics of "patriotism", "law and order" and what not. The holding capitalists poo-pooed the notion of such enterprises being handled by the people; the scheme was pronounced subversive of "individuality". Those were the days when the concerns yielded magnificent dividends—dividends that were predicated upon a monopoly and upon starvation wages paid to the employees, from the pilots down to the deck-hands. The times have changed. As stated above, other concerns have blanketed the sails of the owners of these ferry-boats. In a way, the one-time ferry-line owner is thrown along side of the wage-slave.

As the improved mechanical contrivance displaces the latter by throwing him out of work, the identical process displaces the former by throwing him "out of business." The capitalist, thus thrown out of business, finds himself, together

with the wage-slave who is thrown out of work, at the spot where the road forks—one fork leads to the Socialist Republic the other to Ash-Barrelonia. Which to choose?

The class-conscious workingman is aided by the badge of his class—bare hands—in making the right choice. It is all one to him whether dividends are squeezed out of his flesh by a private employer direct, or whether they are squeezed out of his flesh by the method proposed by the Wisconsin Social Democratic party, which proposes to buy out the capitalist and pay him with bonds. The interest that the capitalist will derive from his bonds indicates a wage-slave class operating the plants that yield the interest. The class-conscious workingman will, accordingly, set his steps flat-footed upon the road that leads to the Socialist Republic, where HIS class shall resume possession of what is justly its own, it alone having produced it, and then enjoy the full fruits of his labor as a free man.

The ash-barrel capitalist, however, the capitalist whom superior capitalist contrivances have left with worthless stuff on his hands, feels his way barred to the road that leads to the Socialist Republic. What bars it is his class interest. And his class interest is determined by the ownership of property whereby he can fleece the proletarian. There is but one road open to him, and that one he enters with enthusiasm, and hoodwinks all the un-class-conscious workers that he can reach to whoop it up for him—the road in which he can get his capitalist Government to buy his worthless stuff off his hands and secure him revenue besides. And he will be so enthusiastic over it that, despite his previous horror of Socialism, he will seek to promote his move by availing himself of the increasing popularity of Socialism. He will put on the mask of Socialism to conceal his ash-barrel purpose.

The Socialist Republic is no ash-barrel. Its mission is not to be the refuse-heap of capitalism, nor the subterranean system of capitalist exploitation. The Socialist Republic will be equipped, not with the cast-off clothing of the capitalist system, but with its choicest raiment; and, owning this, unmortgaged by any bonds or other tenancies by which the capitalist class sucks the workers' substance, the Socialist Republic will guarantee to all the full enjoyment of their product.

Now a gigantic drug trust is under investigation at Chicago. If this keeps on the powers and forces of government will have to be enlarged. Considering the difficulty the government has already experienced in handling the Beef, Oil, and Railroad trusts, there can be no doubt that it is wholly inadequate to handle the nine hundred and odd other trusts that control the country. The trusts control the government, instead of the government controlling the trusts, as the middle class so fondly desires.

J. J. Hill's declaration that wages must come down if the capitalists of this country are to compete with foreign capitalists, does not presage a hopeful future for American workingmen. Hill is a far-sighted capitalist, with the reputation of anticipating the commercial needs of his compatriots.

The decision in the Northern Securities case, just handed down by the United States Supreme Court, enables J. J. Hill to control the majority of the stocks of the railroads forming part of the great Northern combine. Despite this fact there are many otherwise sane persons who believe that the President dealt railroad combination a great blow when he compelled the legal dissolution of the Northern Securities Company. His was simply another one of the paper victories over the trust, of which there have been so many of late.

Father W. A. Becker of the St. Michael Polish Roman Catholic Church at Bridgeport opposed the anti-Russian rule of his Polish parishioners. The result was a mass meeting at which Father Becker was denounced as a Russian spy. This is the proper spirit. "The holy Fathers" of all denominations must be taught to keep their hands off progressive movements of all kinds, under the penalty of being branded as they deserve.

The Czar's disbanding of his "workmen's" commission, forced by the determination of the workmen to have none but truly representative workmen thereon, demonstrates that some of the "labor" schemes that are worked with success in the United States, are failures in poor, benighted Russia.

Mukden has fallen. It required incessant and vigorous warfare to accomplish this end. The lesson should not be lost on those who are striving for the overthrow of Capitalism.

If you receive a sample copy of this paper it is an invitation to subscribe.

## TECHNICAL EDUCATION ILLUSTRATED.

Huxley has somewhere said that technical education is a national necessity in competitive society. The nation that would win success in competition with other nations must train its members in the arts of production and distribution. That Huxley was right may be seen in the great stress laid on technical education by the capitalists—who are the "nation"—of all the countries engaged in the struggle for supremacy in the world's markets. The capitalists of England, France, Germany and the United States lead in its promotion. Those of Germany, especially, excell in this requisite to capitalist triumph. To German technical education is, in a great measure, the success of German capitalism traced. German technology is according to once the fear and the admiration of the whole capitalist world to be copied and improved upon, if victory is to be assured. This applies more particularly to England and the United States, both of whom are being closely pushed by the products of the Teutonic technician, in international competition.

Huxley might have gone a little further and said that technical education is not only a national but a trade necessity in competitive society. Even in trades which are domestic in character and exempt, through the operations of the tariff, from international competition, such as newspaper and job-printing, etc., technical education is urged. The necessity for a low cost of production in a trade that is hampered by a lack of inventive genius and a low supply of cheap, intelligent labor, makes technical education imperative, if competitive destruction by other closely related trades is to be averted. Technical education is a means of increasing the labor supply, either indirectly, by enhancing the efficiency and productivity of the labor at hand, or directly, by swelling the actual number of proficient laborers available in a trade. Technical education is now receiving recognition from employers because it offers a means of breaking down "labor corners", destroying the restriction of apprentices, and improving the quality and the quantity of labor, while, at the same time, decreasing labor's wages. Proof of the foregoing can be found in the over-crowded labor market and low wages confronting Germany's highly-trained workingmen; and the favor technical schools find in the eyes of employers' associations, more particularly the usgs to which they are put in times of strike. It was the pupils of the Columbia University technical school, who took the places of the striking electrical workers at Watseessing, N. J., some years ago.

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## CORRESPONDENCE

CORRESPONDENTS WHO PREFER TO APPEAR IN PRINT UNDER AN ASSUMED NAME WILL ATTACH SUCH NAME TO THEIR COMMUNICATIONS, BEING THEIR OWN SIGNATURE AND ADDRESS. NO ONE ELSE WILL BE RECOGNIZED.

SLOBODIN, BOHM & CO.

To the Daily and Weekly People:—At a meeting of the Socialist Democratic Party in the Bronx last night, in the discussion following the talk of John C. Chase, it was asserted by Mr. Slobodin: First, That the Socialist Trade and Labor Alliance is a dishonest organization because labor-leader Bohm of the C. F. U. is admittedly dishonest and Bohm was once secretary of the Socialist Trade and Labor Alliance; Second, That the Socialist Trade and Labor Alliance is not controlled by its membership but dictatorially ruled by Daniel De Leon. As an instance to prove the second point he said that at some national convention of the Socialist Trade and Labor Alliance held somewhere up in New York State, Mr. Bohm was duly elected secretary of the General Executive Board of the Socialist Trade and Labor Alliance and that when the convention was over and Bohm returned to New York, he was, in some manner unseated by Mr. De Leon, by use of the machine he had built up while the Socialist movement was young and easily subject to such abuses. That thereupon Mr. De Leon had his own man put in the position to which Bohm had been duly elected.

I would like a statement in the letter box answers of the facts concerning this Bohm affair.

Chas. H. Chase,

New York, March 6.

[The two charges of lawyer Slobodin resolve themselves into one—what you correctly call "this Bohm affair". The facts are of much all around interest and timely; they are these:

Ernest Bohm was the General Secretary of the S. T. & L. A. until 1898. He was during that time also the secretary of District Alliance No. 1 (Central Labor Federation) affiliated with the S. T. & L. A. In the fall of 1897, the said D. A. No. 1 decided to issue a "Labor Day Souvenir"—a sort of a general agitational booklet, common with labor organizations, and the expenses for which are raised by advertisements. The job was auctioned out to the highest bidder, and Bohm got it. The "Souvenir" appeared on Labor Day, and no sooner did it appear than it aroused the indignation of Boston New York, Socialist Labor Party. The "Souvenir" contained flamboyant advertisements for capitalist parties, besides puffy advertisements of the "Get Your Own House" swindle upon workingmen. Here was treason. It had to be dealt with firmly. But what developed at the Section meeting which took up the matter, quickly showed that, besides firmness, the occasion demanded prudence. The stench of puffs of treason and corruption assailed the nostrils of the inquires from several quarters that were not impacted. The corruption manifested in the "Souvenir" seemed to reach further than at first imagined. The whole crowd had to be caught, and there was danger that they might escape.

The following in rough was the situation: An angry portion of the Section demanded the immediate expulsion of Bohm; his fellow criminals defended him absolutely, and cited in his defense the capitalist political and other similar advertisements in the "New Yorker Volkszeitung". A two-thirds majority is needed for expulsion in the General Committee. This majority looked doubtful.

There was another consideration. Bohm had up to that time been a loyal member of the S. L. P. and his loyalty had earned for him the bitter hatred of the Party's internal foes, the agencies that the Volkszeitung Corporation kept in the Party. These now saw their opportunity. As a consequence, the discussion developed into a bitter wrangle between two elements, both of which were equally pernicious—the element that was partisans of Bohm and the element that hated him for his up to then Party loyalty.

There was a third element, of which I was one. The rumor had reached us that Bohm was as shocked as ourselves at the contents of the Central Labor Federation's Souvenir; that he was guilty only in appearance, and therefore all the more indignant; that he did not issue, canvass for, or in any manner handle the Souvenir; that he passed the matter over to his partner, a non-Party member, and that the villain or ignoramus had taken the advertisements complained of. The "wicked partner" plus sounded fishy, but his sincerity was possible, especially with a man of Bohm's notoriously easy-going disposition. In view of all these circumstances, I moved the appointment of a committee to investigate Bohm; and I explained that "nothing would be lost and everything might be gained by the process; the guilty could not escape".

The Committee reported at a subsequent meeting of the Section. Its report confirmed Bohm's plan. Immediately a motion to drop the whole affair came from the Section element that had sought

from December of 1898 (the year of the Buffalo convention) to April 1900, and which finally culminated in the Kangaroo riots, the Bohm-Waldinger "guard" attended the meetings zealously and in corpore, and with their vote did yeoman's work for lawyer Slobodin's side of the issue—for all I know, the corrupt Bohm and his Waldinger associates, whom the S. T. & L. A. and the S. L. P. bounced, are to this day associates of lawyer Slobodin in the Corporation.

Thus we see that so long as there was a doubt concerning Bohm's corruption, the Volkszeitung Corporation violently hated the man; the instant his corruption was demonstrated the Volkszeitung Corporation hugged him and his clique to their heart.

All these facts are known to Mr. Slobodin. In falsifying some facts and suppressing others the gentleman spoke against his better knowledge—much to my delight because his stupidity in raking up that affair has afforded me a welcome opportunity to place the whole matter squarely on record. In the general discussion now going on, the matter points a timely moral, although the tale that it adorns is fully six years old.—EDITOR THE PEOPLE.

## ONE OF MANY.

To the Daily and Weekly People.—After reading the sample copies sent me, I decided to subscribe for the Weekly People for a term of six months. Enclosed you will find the necessary amount to cover it.

Thanking you for the prompt attention paid to my request for a sample copy, I remain, yours truly,

C. H. G.  
St. Louis, Mo., March 3.

## IS THE AVERAGE AMERICAN IN A COMATOSE CONDITION?

To the Daily and Weekly People.—Is the average American, man and woman in a comatose condition? Is a question that has forced itself to the front in the minds of observers for some time. Or are they only dormant, and if so what can be done to arouse them to a sense of duty, or can anything be done?

If the things done in Jerusalem (Paterson) had been done in Sodom and Gomorrah they surely would have turned from their evil ways. Two young women have recently been killed here by men. More about them in this writing.

If the Russians had the opportunities we have, would they do as we do?

All literature in Russia that tends to educate the people is suppressed, and the declaration of our independence found in the possession of a Russian is enough to banish and has banished them to Siberia. The Russian rulers feel they would be insecure in their despotism if knowledge took possession of their subjects. Still, it is safe to say that not one in twenty Americans think enough of their liberty in this country to even read the declaration or any other literature that would cause thought, notwithstanding the fact that our condition is become more Russianized daily.

It was also a crime to teach the chattel slave knowledge, because the master knew that if knowledge was possessed by the slave, his despotic power would cease. The capitalist despot likewise knows that if knowledge takes possession of the people of America his power to enslave them will be gone. So he resorts to strategy (not having the primitive force to compel). His schemes are varied and many. A few will illustrate how he retains his power.

The attitude of the students of Columbia College in the present railroad strike in New York demonstrates the influence of the college faculty. The literature of to-day is written for pay mostly, and must be of a certain kind, novel and untrue, still having the semblance of truth. Adulterating food and drink; unsanitary tenements; imperfect sewerage, producing impure air, impoverishing the people mentally and physically, thereby causing inertia and general and gradual resignation to despondency; these are also effective.

The Paterson "Morning Call" of March 1, 1905 says the number of men implicated in the death of the young woman found dead and almost naked was amazing and the evidence brought to light was too damnable for publication. The same paper said concerning the other young woman similarly found a short time ago: "The evidence is unprintable." Yesterday's "Call" (March 7) gives prominence to three items on its first page, showing plainly that the management of that newspaper desires to give prominence to the effects of the system they support—namely, the capitalist system of private ownership, managed jointly by the Democratic and Republican parties—without any clue to their real cause, thereby bestializing the readers thereof.

Whenever anything occurs that would cause concerted action (revolt) among men and women, the capitalist press simply says "it's unfit for publication." Still they do not hesitate to tell how many unmarried girls give birth to babies and throw them in vaults or ash-dumps or abandon them, and many other things of a demoralizing nature to the

individual; but when it relates to the whole sex and makes every woman unsafe under the system of capitalism, then the press has a virtuous spasm and collapses.

In the case of the two women referred to, the crimes were committed in a dastardly manner, displaying a depth of depravity and degeneracy seldom equalled. The first crime was committed by men of high social standing, who first drugged the woman in a side room of a saloon. The last by men of low social standing, who did not drug their victim.

This letter is written to prove to the American men and women the necessity for them to interest themselves in the practical everyday affairs of the government, political and economic, as well as social; to overthrow the present capitalist system that produces the conditions here presented and places every man, woman and child in danger of crime being committed on them; as not a single individual is safe, be he father, husband, son or brother; and also, in the place of despondency to create hope.

There is truthful literature to be had. If American men and women would read Bebel's "Woman under Socialism," and other books issued by the Socialist Labor Party they would soon cease to feel an indifference or unfitness to engage in earnest in the work of ridding society of the criminal parasites who flourish and prosper on the bodies and blood of the Whole Working Class. Therefore, the whole Working Class, men and women, must study their class interest and organize in the Socialist Trade and Labor Alliance; it is the only way to prevent the complete degradation of yourself.

Organizations are composed of individuals; individuals can do nothing unless organized. The capitalist class is organized, hence its power. The Working Class must organize to obtain power. The Working Class outnumbers the capitalist class ten to one. It can and must bring about a moral regeneration through Socialism.

Fraternally,  
Richard Berdan.  
Paterson, N. J., March 8.

## IN AID OF THE RUSSIAN REVOLUTIONISTS.

To the Daily and Weekly People.—It was long a question to my mind whether or not I should help financially the Russian revolutionists in their present struggle with autocracy and reaction, because I did not know under whose auspices the revolutionists are fighting. I thought at first that this present struggle is a repetition of that old-time aimless and unsystematic, ay, useless, terrorism which took place in the '60's and '80's, but now I see that while that element of the revolutionists, the terrorists, are again pursuing their old tactics, the movement, as a whole, is guided by Socialists and as such is entitled to the moral and financial support of every Socialist Labor Party man.

If the Russians had the opportunities we have, would they do as we do? All literature in Russia that tends to educate the people is suppressed, and the declaration of our independence found in the possession of a Russian is enough to banish and has banished them to Siberia. The Russian rulers feel they would be insecure in their despotism if knowledge took possession of their subjects. Still, it is safe to say that not one in twenty Americans think enough of their liberty in this country to even read the declaration or any other literature that would cause thought, notwithstanding the fact that our condition is become more Russianized daily.

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If you care you can send me proper credentials and authority to receive money for you and will try my best to collect something from the wide acquaintance I have amongst Russian born people.

I am a traveling man by occupation, with the northwest part of the United States as my territory, and if there is anything I can do in that country will be glad to do so.

Yours respectfully,  
John Arboe.  
Seattle, Wash., March 4.

## CHICAGO VOUCHERS DISCOUNTED AT USURIOUS RATES.

To the Daily and Weekly People.—The scurvy puppets of T. J. Morgan & Co., dignified by the title "Socialist" party, held a primary election here last Saturday with some laughable and astonishing results. The mask was torn from their faces and now they stand before the workers in their true light.

Imagine, if you can, a self-styled revolutionary organization playing the role of shyster politician. If any one was in doubt as to the exact status of the bogus "Socialist" party a trip to the election commissioners would remove forever the hope of any good coming from such bunch. Polling ten per cent. of the vote last fall gave them the right to use judges and clerks at the spring election. This was a graft too good to last and Morgan & Co. seized upon it with greedy hands. The party

officials had all kinds of ward heelers sworn in as judges and clerks at \$5 per day, paid from the city treasury. The city treasury is empty at present and so vouchers are drawn upon it to cash when money is available. These vouchers are cashed at a ten per cent. discount by any loan shark or banker in town. But Morgan & Co. had another plan regarding these vouchers. An advertisement was inserted in the "Weekly Yellow," better known as "The Chicago Socialist," to the effect that all vouchers could be cashed at the Socialist party headquarters. Immediately after the closing of the polls the ward heelers fairly swarmed around the place and were informed that the vouchers were to be cashed at \$4.25 each, a discount of fifteen per cent. Of course, Morgan's gang received nothing from their banker friend for the extra five per cent. discount?

In the case of the two women referred to, the crimes were committed in a dastardly manner, displaying a depth of depravity and degeneracy seldom equalled. The first crime was committed by men of high social standing, who first drugged the woman in a side room of a saloon. The last by men of low social standing, who did not drug their victim.

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There is truthful literature to be had. If American men and women would read Bebel's "Woman under Socialism," and other books issued by the Socialist Labor Party they would soon cease to feel an indifference or unfitness to engage in earnest in the work of ridding society of the criminal parasites who flourish and prosper on the bodies and blood of the Whole Working Class. Therefore, the whole Working Class, men and women, must study their class interest and organize in the Socialist Trade and Labor Alliance; it is the only way to prevent the complete degradation of yourself.

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